in New Delhi to the Nepalese nationals in case of emergent conditions.

Children up to the age of 10 years do not require the above-mentioned documents for travelling between India and Nepal, by air.

US assistance to deal with terrorism

1280. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United States have decided to qualitatively upgrade its assistance to India to deal with terrorism and share its expertise in "Strengthening Counter-terrorism Institution Structures", at a meeting of the U.S.-India Joint Working Group on "Counter-terrorism", held in Washington on 26th June, 2001;

(b) whether meeting also held consultations on the Indian proposal for a Comprehensive Convention against International Terrorism; and

(c) whether the two countries also agreed to hold a Seminar on countering chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear terrorist threats later this year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The United States Government has agreed to develop and offer programmes, through mutual consultation, on range of specific proposals made by Government in anti-terrorism training, including programmes for inter-departmental coordination, crisis response and consequence management. The two sides will also conduct a joint survey to increase the effectiveness of anti-terrorism training programme. Details of the U.S.-proposed seminar in New Delhi on chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear threats are being finalised through consultations between the two sides. The Joint Working Group continued the on-going consultations on India-proposed Comprehensive Convention against International Terrorism

being discussed in the Sixth Committee of the United Nations General Assembly, and reiterated support for its early finalisation.

Transfer of prisoners from Myanmar Jail

1281. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact of Shri S. Gandhi Singh and three others who have been in Myanmar Jail since 1995;

(b) if so, in which Myanmar Jail they are kept as prisoners; and

(c) whether Government have not taken up the matter with Myanmar Government for transferring them in country to keep them under country's legal system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. They are in Mandalay Jail, having been convicted under the Narcotics Act of Myanmar. The Indian Embassy in Yangon maintains contact with the prisoners through consular access and checks on their welfare.

Number of talks between India and Pakistan

†1282. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of round of talks have been held between India and Pakistan over the years; and

(b) if so, when, where and of which levels the same were held and what have been the main issues during each round of talks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.